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The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Identical letters dated 19 July 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to convey to you the following information:

At 1330 hours on 2 July 2013, on the outskirts of Kafr Shuba (Hassan Gate 2), near the position of the Indian unit (14-4), a group of 20 Israelis, five of whom were military personnel, accompanied by 1 Merkava tank, 2 Defender vehicles and 1 civilian vehicle, crossed the technical fence and proceeded to inspect it and also to examine a prefabricated structure in the above-mentioned area. The persons and vehicles deployed themselves in the area and took up combat positions, pointing their weapons towards Lebanese Army personnel and Lebanese territory.

At 1500 hours on 8 July 2013, a 10-man Israeli patrol crossed the line of withdrawal in the occupied Shab'a Farms and entered Lebanese territory in the area of Marah al-Haswa, north of the Israeli enemy's Radar position. They abducted a shepherd, Yusuf Rahil, and attempted to abduct another shepherd, Yusuf Zahrah, who fled to the post of the Indian unit attached to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). The former was released at 1800 hours on that same day, after he had been interrogated at the Israeli enemy position at Maqasir al-Dud.

At approximately 0600 hours on 9 July 2013, on the open sea within the territorial waters of occupied Palestine opposite Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli military launch placed a new buoy next to buoy No. 3 and entered some 10 metres into Lebanese territory. The launch then returned to occupied Palestinian territorial waters.

These acts are a blatant violation of my country's sovereignty and the relevant international resolutions, including Security Council resolution 1701 (2006). They are also a flagrant contravention of the Charter of the United Nations and the principles and provisions of international law. I call on the Organization to condemn these violations in the strongest terms and to compel Israel to halt its violations of

Lebanon's sovereignty and fulfil all its obligations pursuant to resolution 1701 (2006).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 36, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative